New Frontiers for Social Policy: Investing in the Future

How does your country compare?

OECD

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Social Policy Ministerial Meeting and High-Level Policy Forum
New Frontiers for Social Policy: Investing in the Future
13 & 14 February 2025

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Where nothing else is mentioned, the colours represent **OECD countries** and selected **non-member countries**.

OECD refers to unweighted averages of OECD countries for which data are available.

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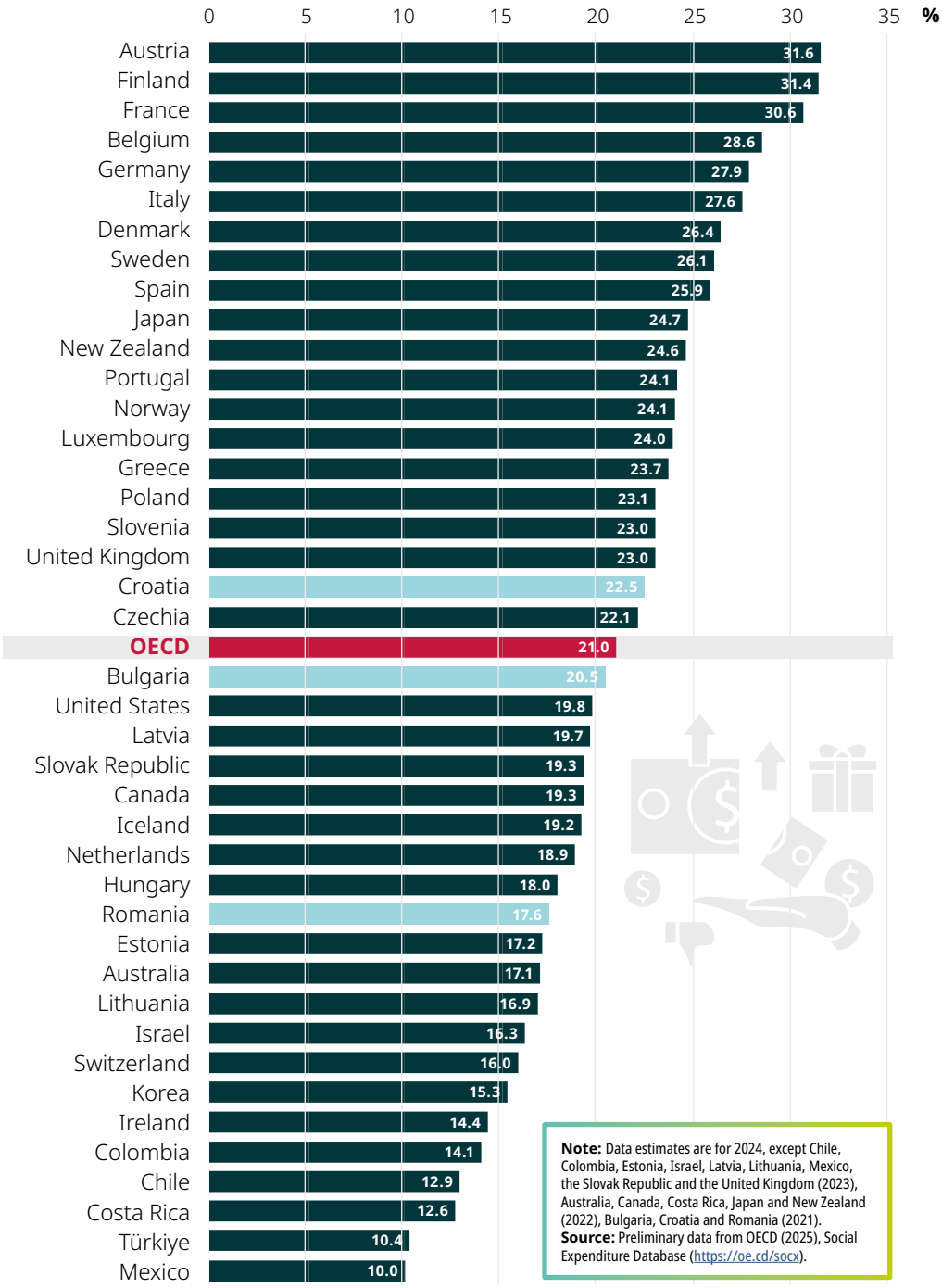
Public social expenditure

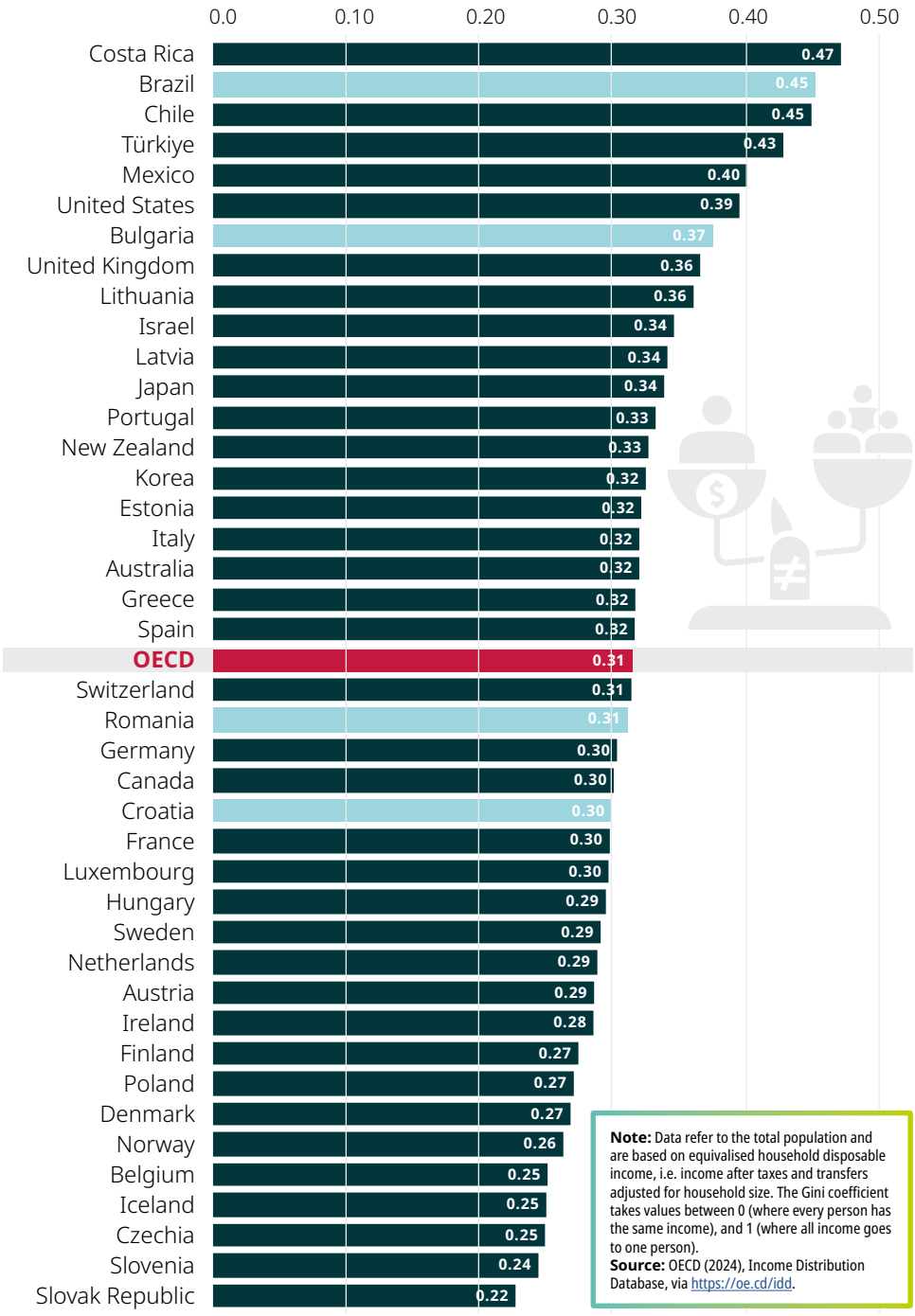
Public social protection expenditure as % of GDP, 2024 or latest year



Note: Data estimates are for 2024, except Chile, Colombia, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, the Slovak Republic and the United Kingdom (2023), Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Japan and New Zealand (2022), Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania (2021).
Source: Preliminary data from OECD (2025), Social Expenditure Database (https://oe.cd/socx).

Income inequality

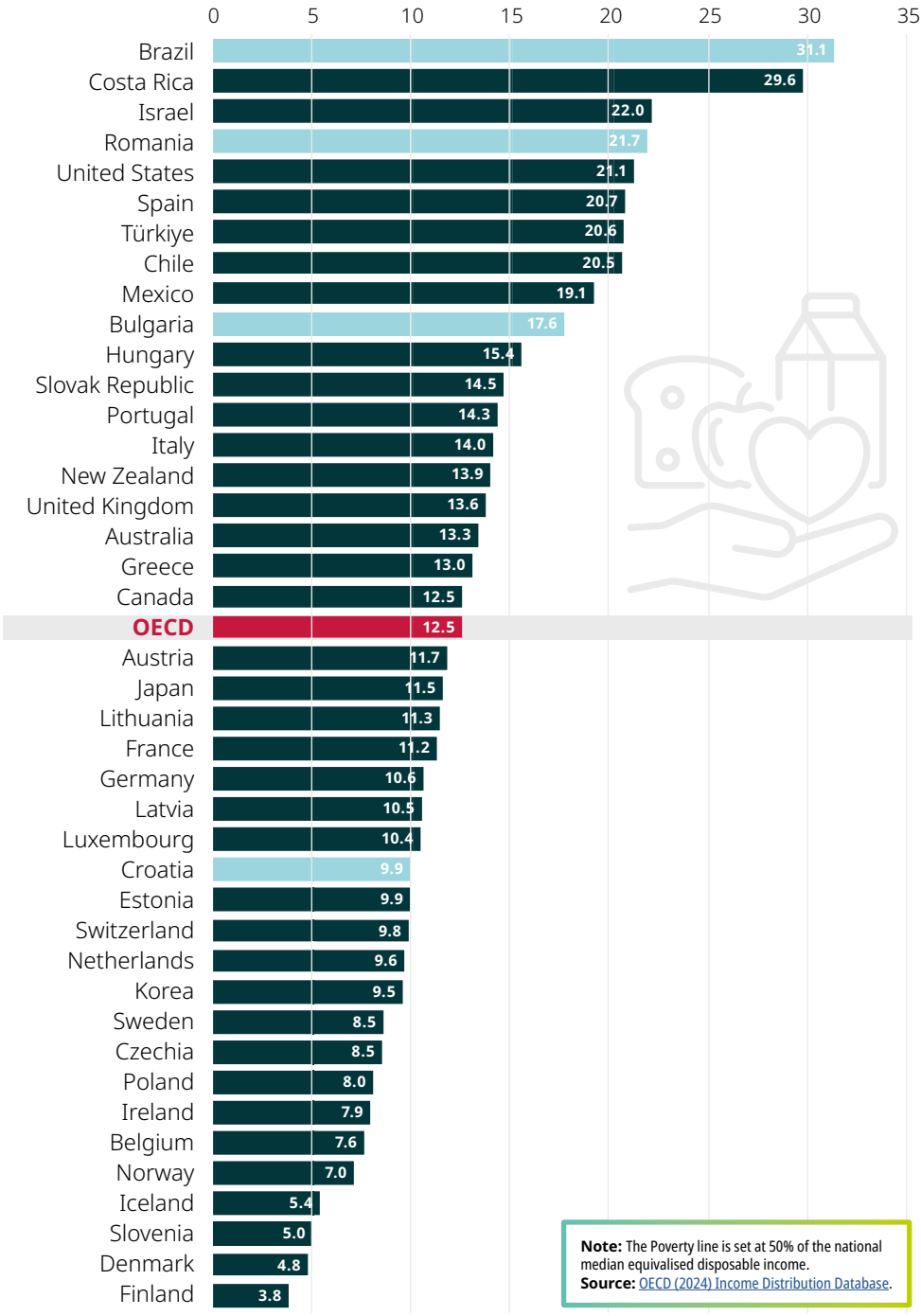
Gini coefficient of disposable income inequality, 2022 or latest year, total population



Note: Data refer to the total population and are based on equivalised household disposable income, i.e. income after taxes and transfers adjusted for household size. The Gini coefficient takes values between 0 (where every person has the same income), and 1 (where all income goes to one person).
Source: OECD (2024), Income Distribution Database, via https://oe.cd/idd.

Children living in relative income poverty

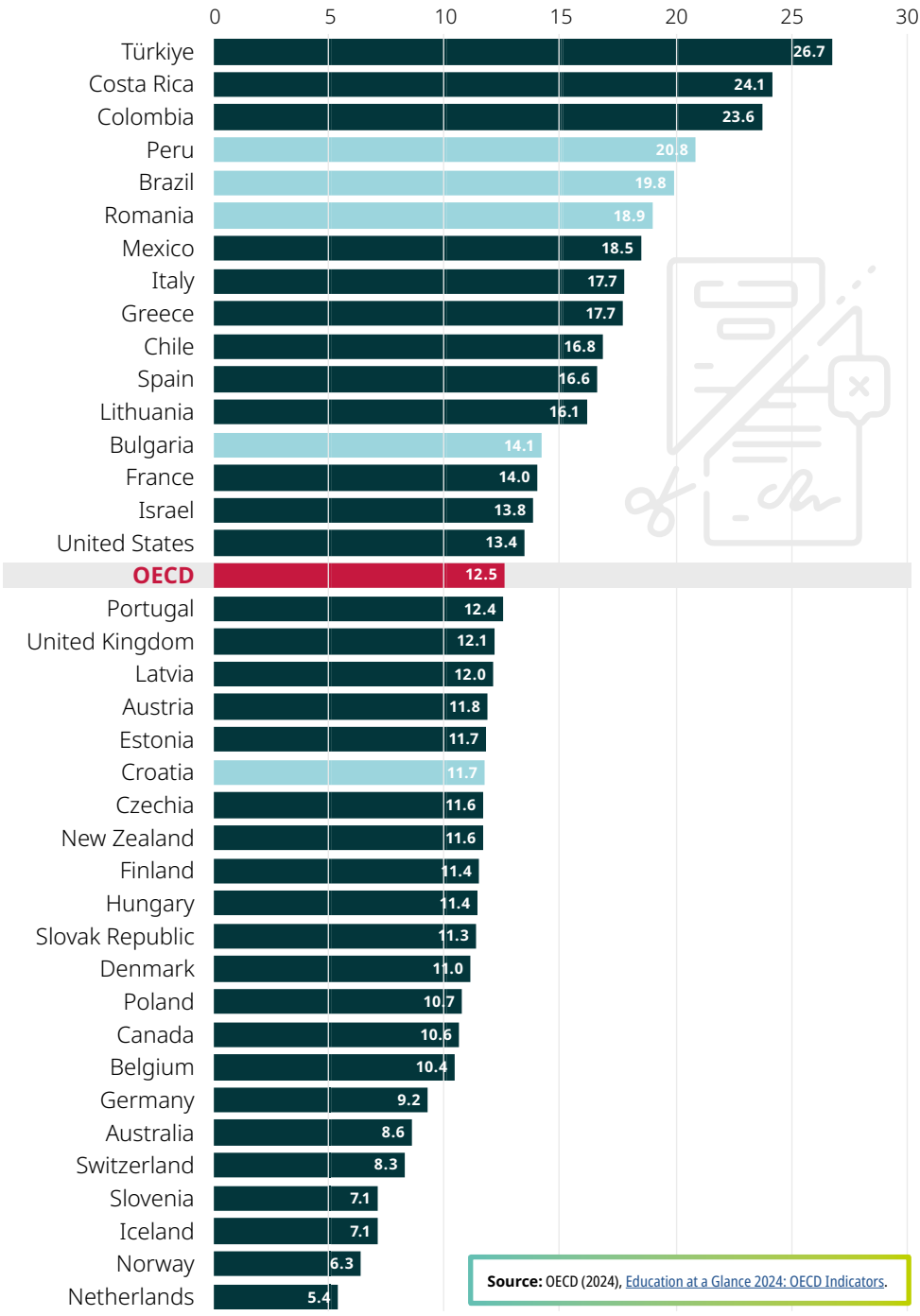
% of children (0–17) living in families with income below the poverty line, 2022 or latest year



Note: The Poverty line is set at 50% of the national median equivalised disposable income.
Source: OECD (2024) Income Distribution Database.

Youth not in employment, education or training

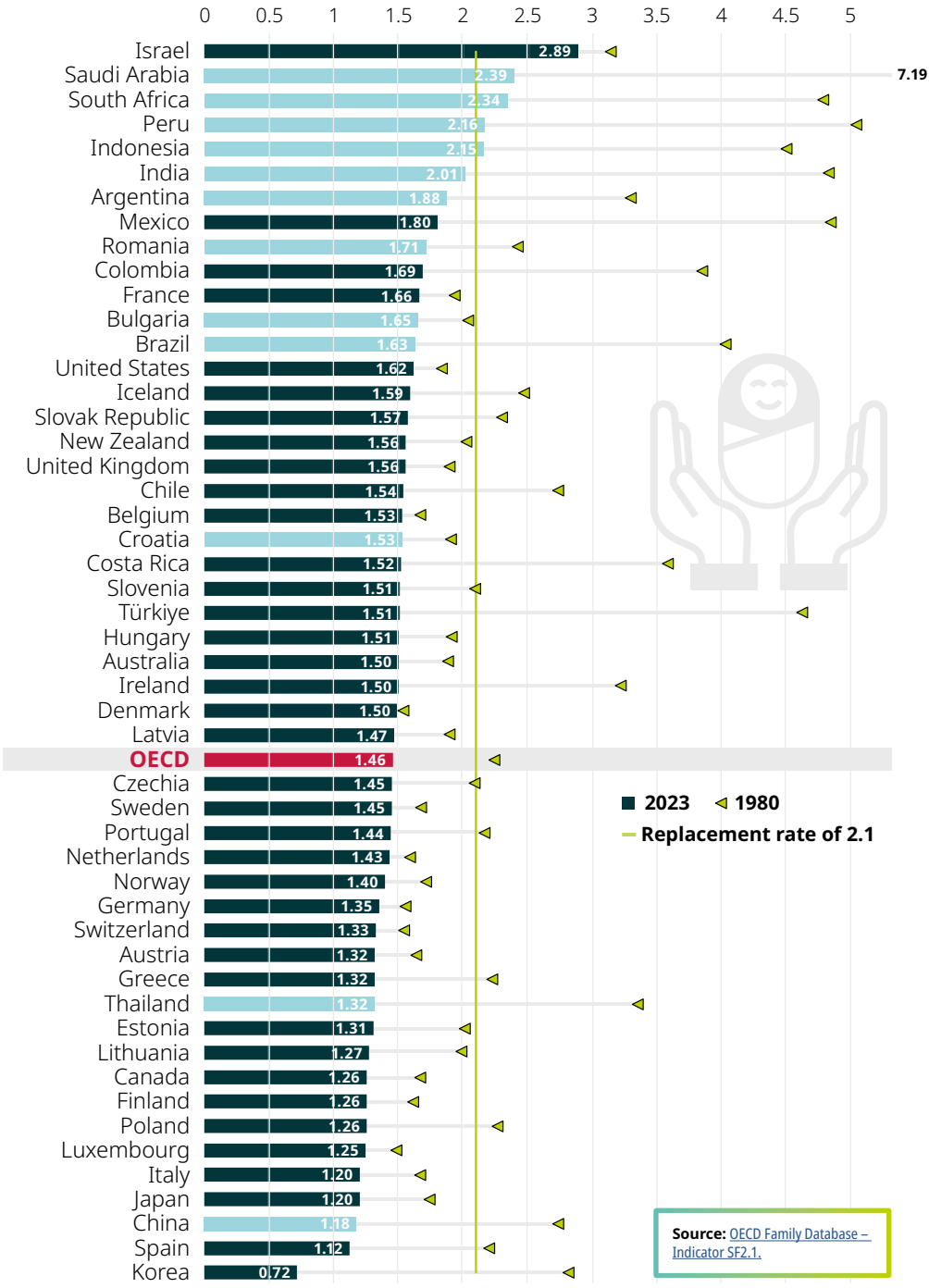
% of 15–29 year-olds, who are not in employment, education or training (NEETs), 2023 or latest year



Source: OECD (2024), Education at a Glance 2024: OECD Indicators.

Total fertility rates

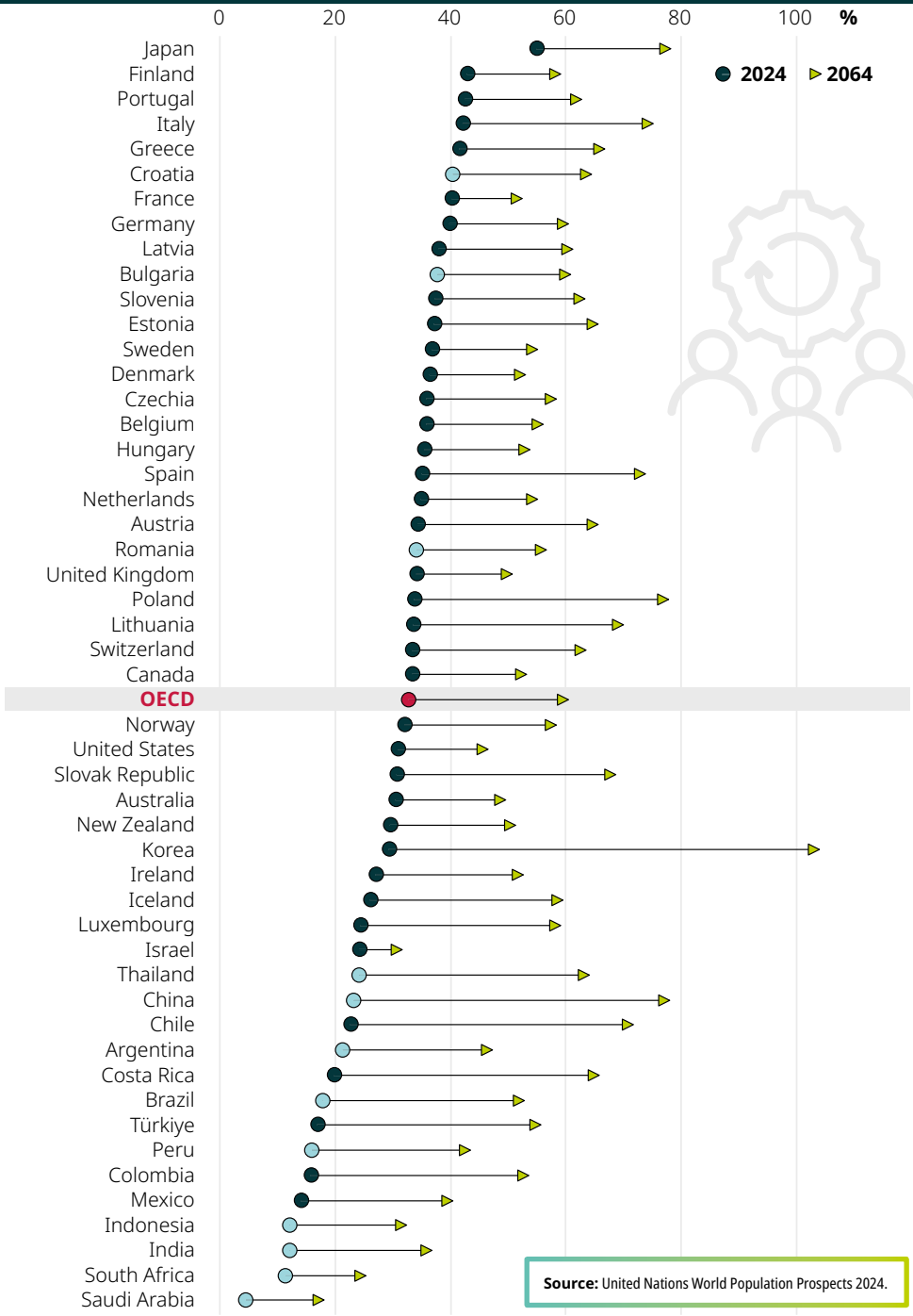
Number of children per woman aged 15 to 49, 1980 and 2023 or latest year



Source: OECD Family Database – Indicator SF2.1.

Population ageing

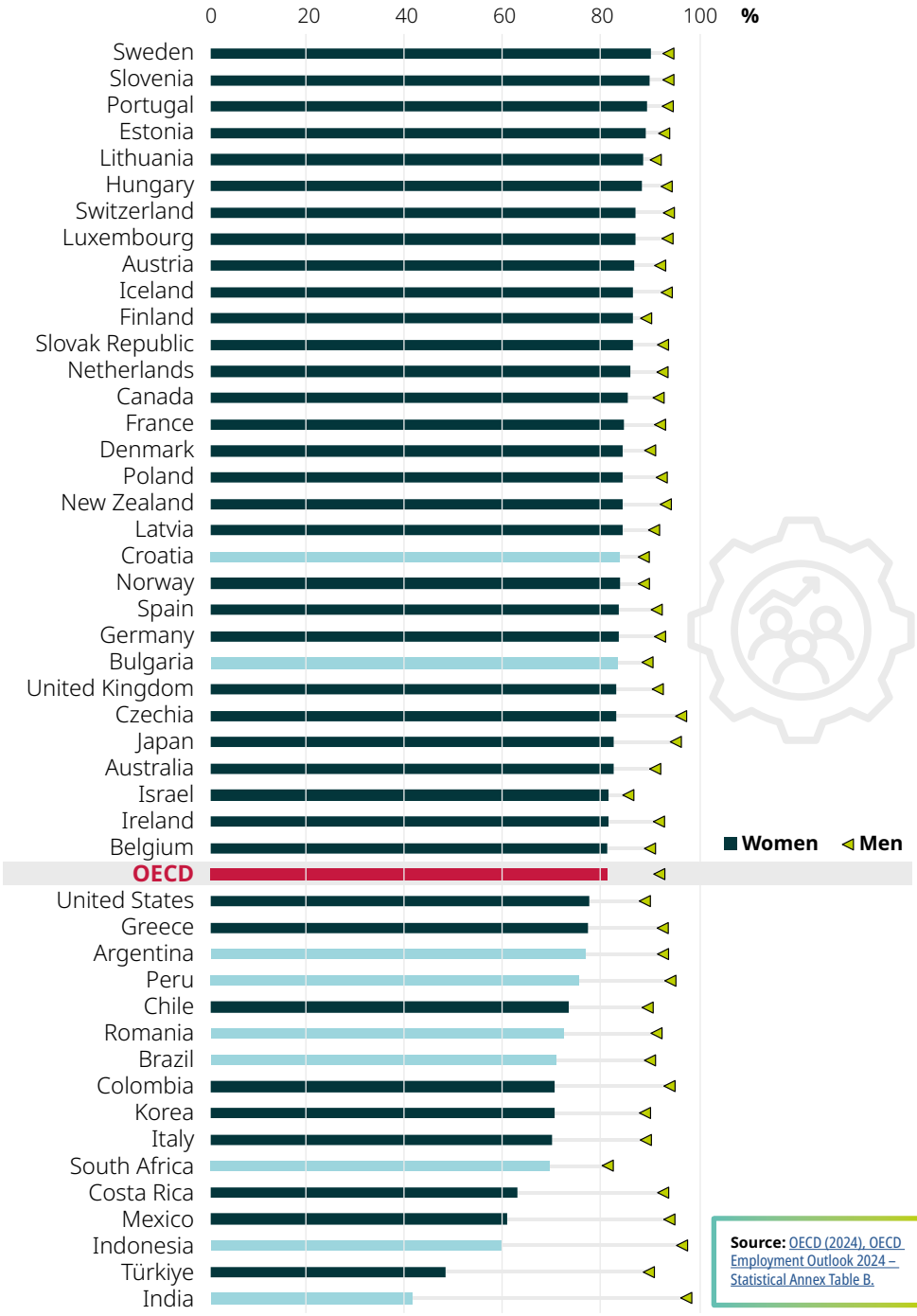
Number of people aged 65 and older, per 100 people of working-age (20–64), projected for 2024 and 2064



Source: United Nations World Population Prospects 2024.

Labour force participation by gender

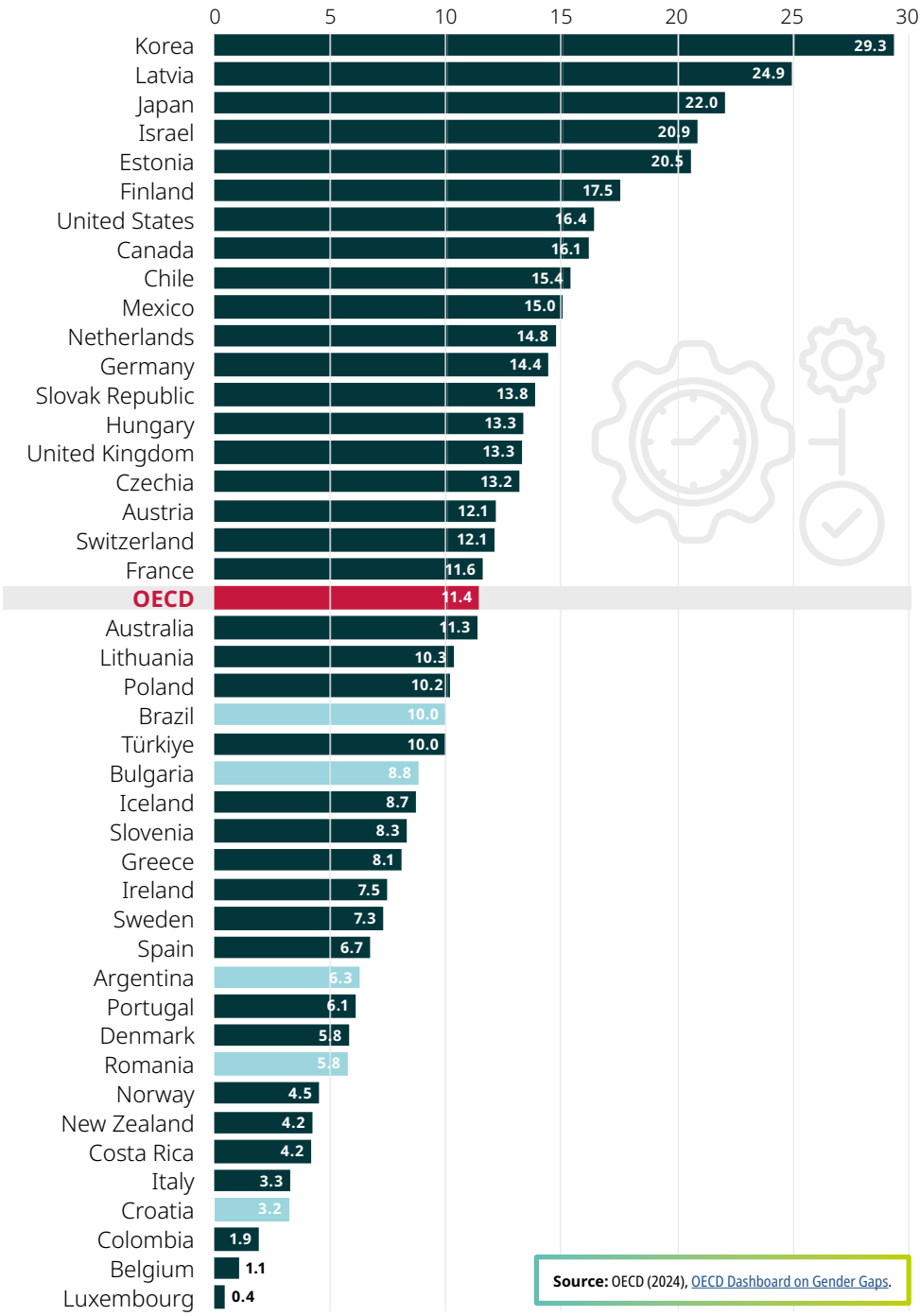
Labour force in % of the population, 25–54 years old, by gender, 2023 or latest year



Source: OECD (2024), OECD Employment Outlook 2024 – Statistical Annex Table B.

Gender wage gap

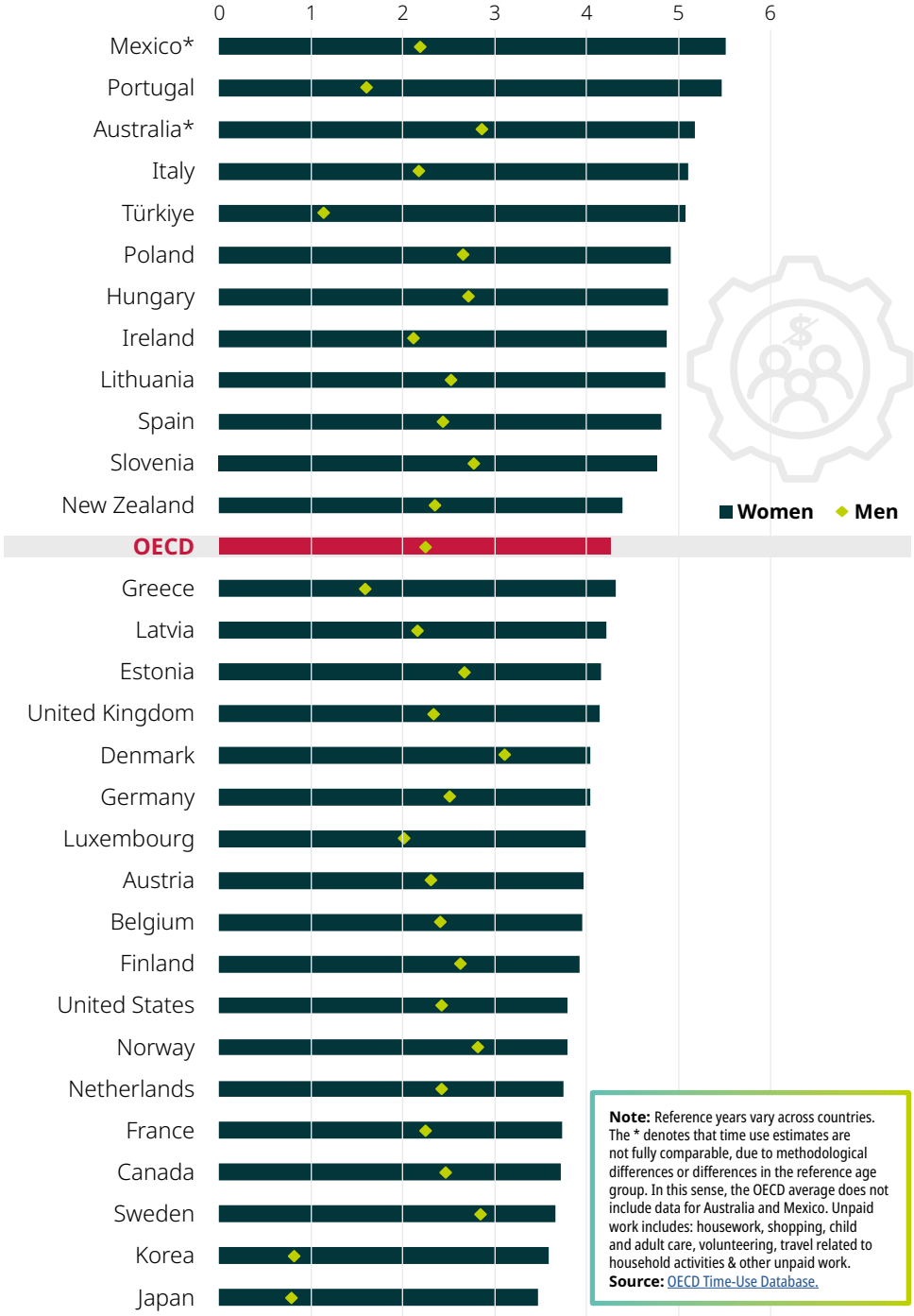
Difference between median earnings of men and women, as % of median earnings of men, Full-time employees, 2023 or latest year



Source: OECD (2024), OECD Dashboard on Gender Gaps.

Unpaid work for women and men

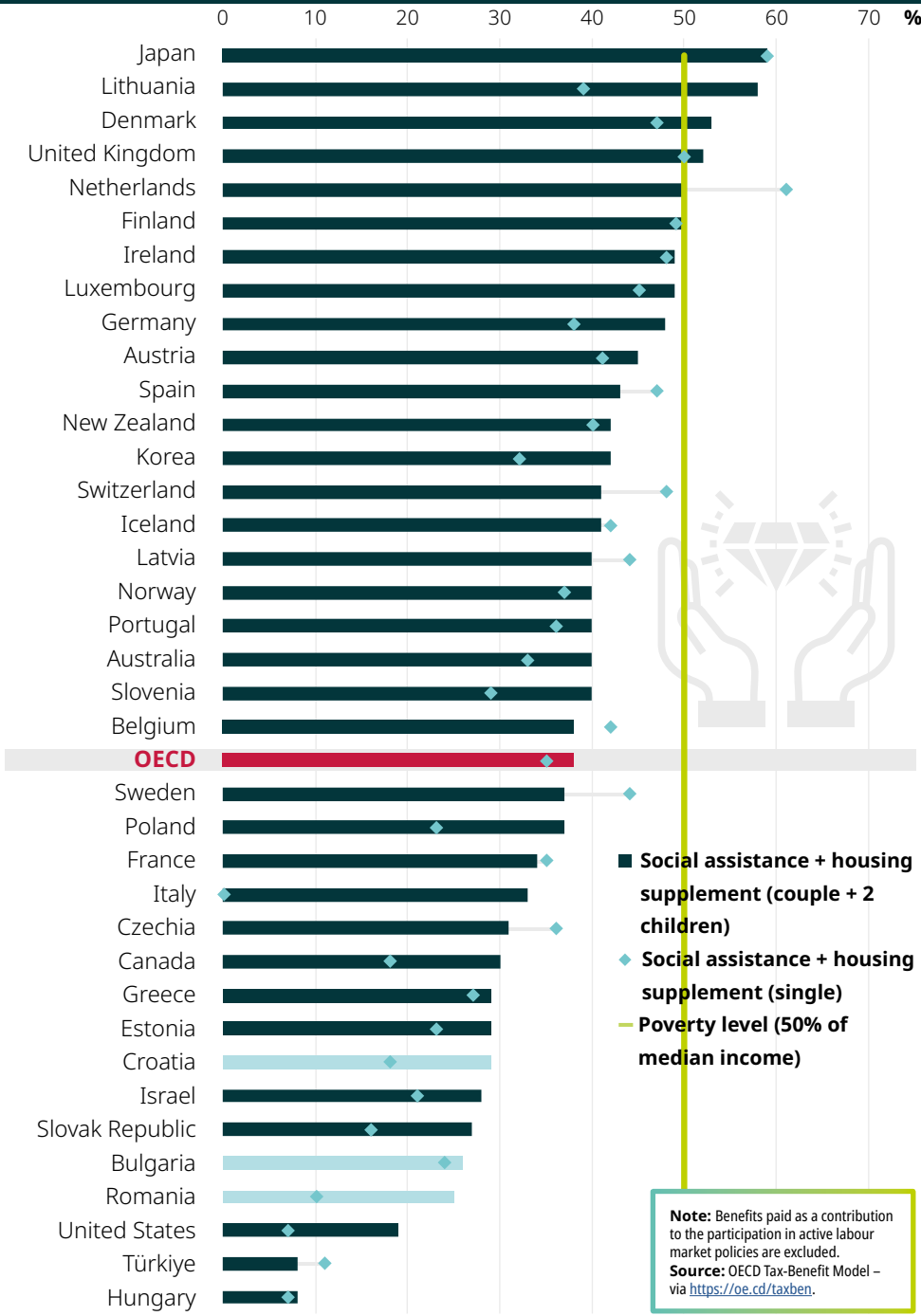
Amount of daily unpaid work for women and men (15–64) , in hours, 2022 or latest year



Note: Reference years vary across countries. The * denotes that time use estimates are not fully comparable, due to methodological differences or differences in the reference age group. In this sense, the OECD average does not include data for Australia and Mexico. Unpaid work includes: housework, shopping, child and adult care, volunteering, travel related to household activities & other unpaid work.
Source: OECD Time-Use Database.

Adequacy of last-resort safety nets

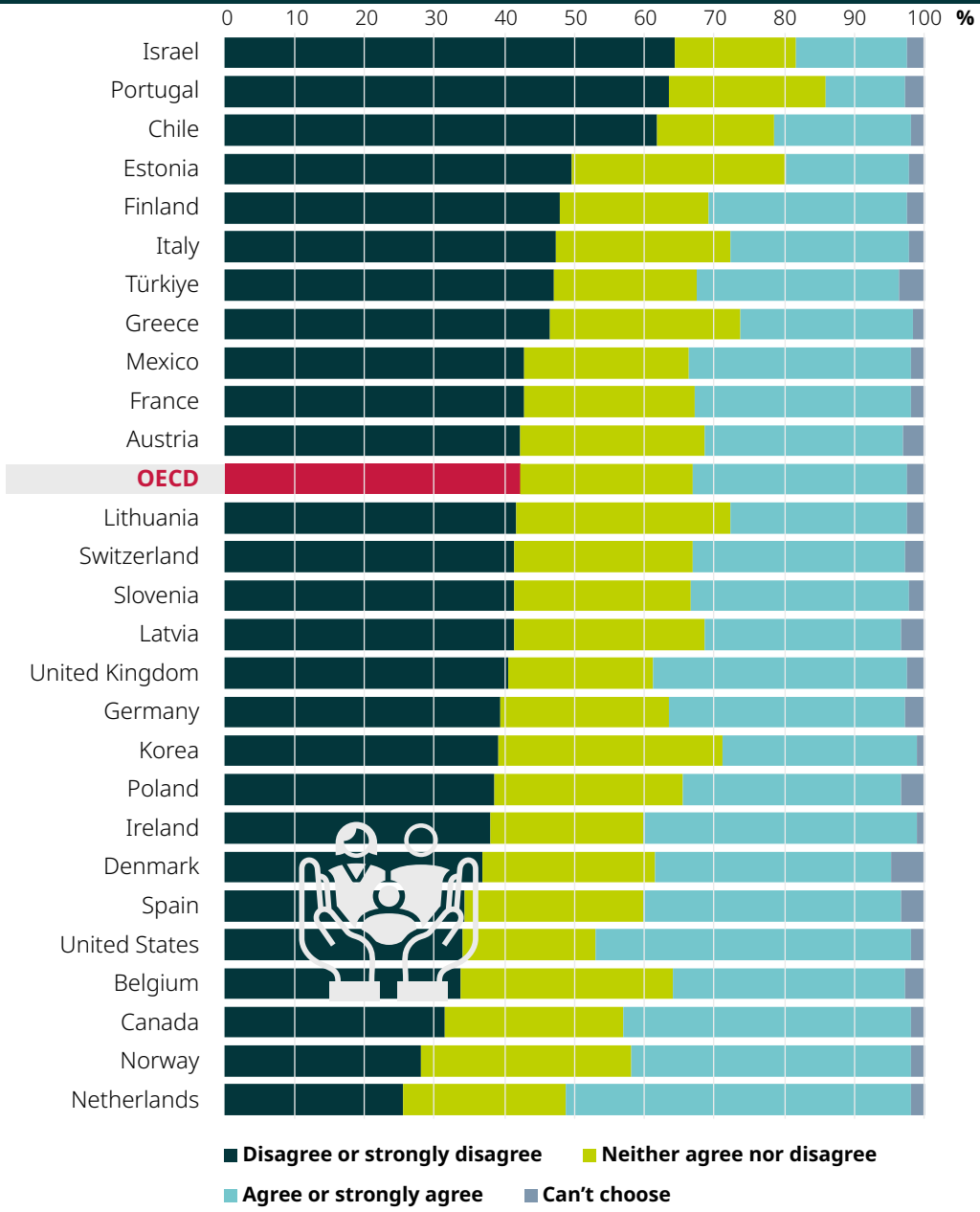
Maximum benefit levels of social assistance benefits, in percentage of median disposable income, for a couple with two children and a single person living in a rented accomodation, in 2024 or latest year



Note: Benefits paid as a contribution to the participation in active labour market policies are excluded.
Source: OECD Tax-Benefit Model – via https://oe.cd/taxben.

Perceptions of the accessibility of public benefits

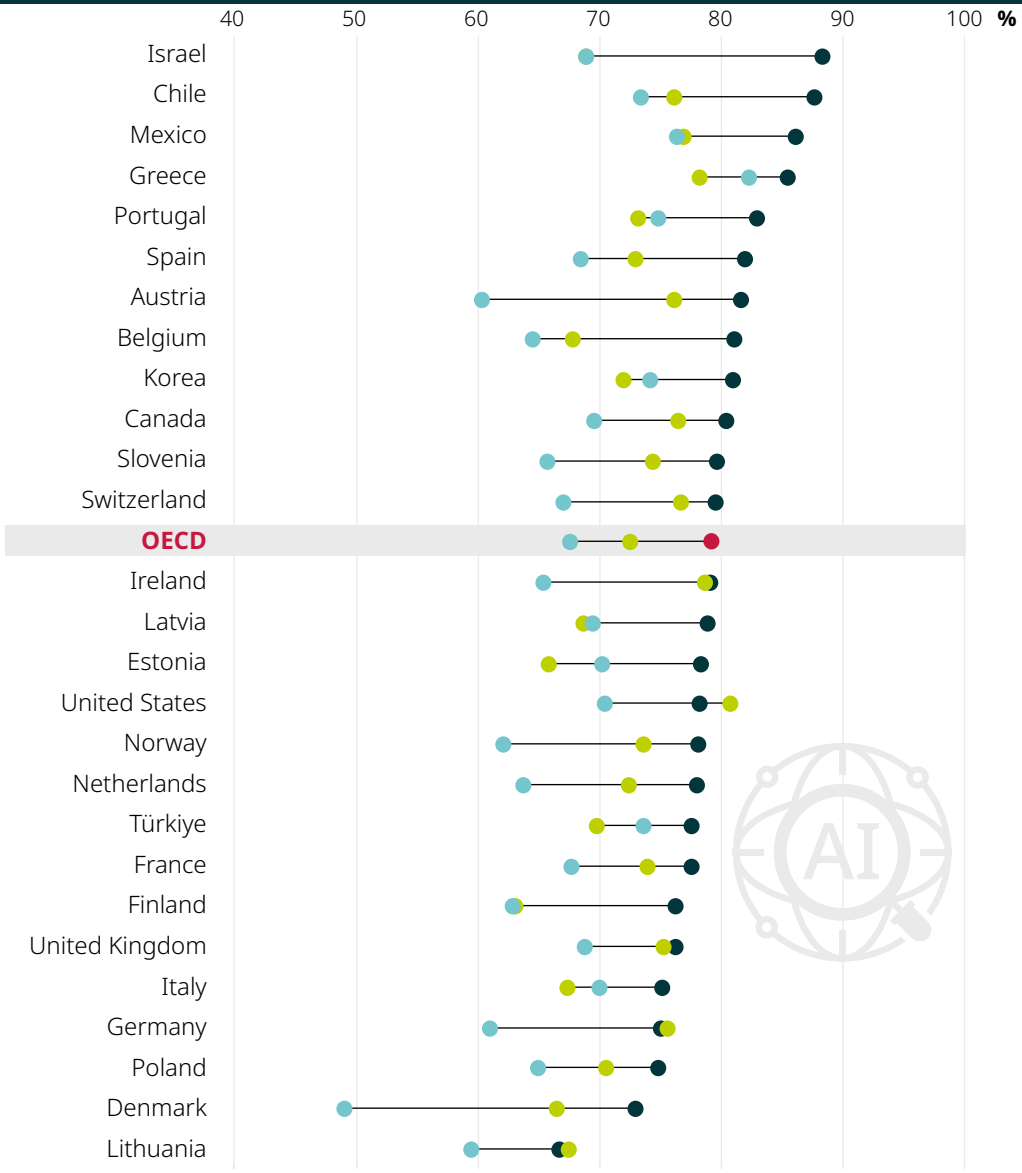
Distribution of responses to the statement "I feel I could easily receive public benefits if I needed them", 18–64 year olds, 2024



Note: Respondents were asked "To what degree do you agree or disagree with the following statements? I feel I could easily receive public benefits if I needed them". Response options were: 1. Strongly disagree, 2. Disagree, 3. Neither agree nor disagree, 4. Agree, 5. Strongly agree, 6. Can't choose. RTM-27 refers to the unweighted average for the 27 OECD countries participating in OECD RTM 2024.
Source: OECD Secretariat estimates based on the OECD Risks That Matter survey 2024 (with URL: http://oe.cd/rtm).

Perceptions of impact of Artificial Intelligence

Percentage of respondents who believe the following outcomes are likely or very likely as a result of AI, 2024

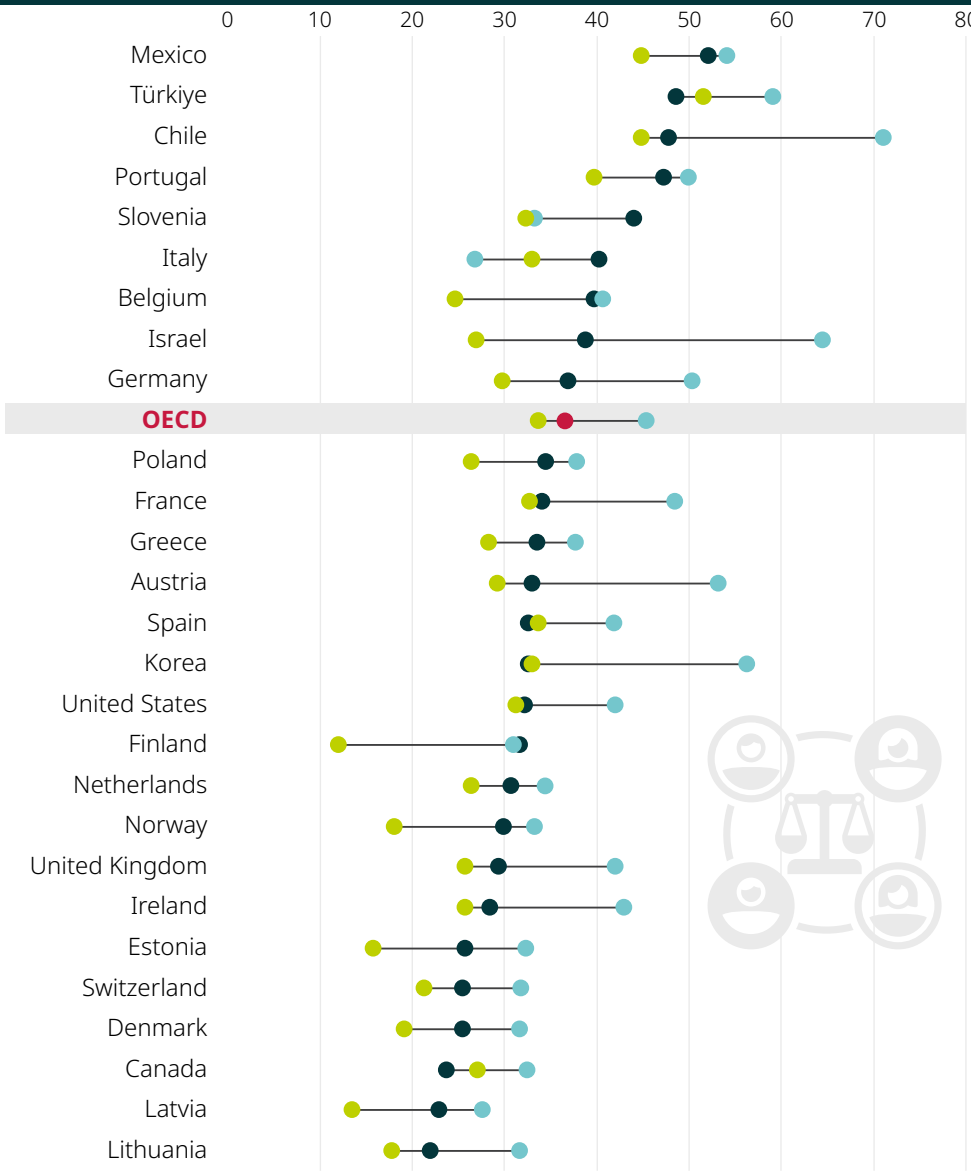


● **AI technology will require many people to re-train for different jobs** ● **AI technology will lead to more surveillance at work** ● **AI technology will lead to higher levels of unemployment**

Note: Figure present the response choices with the highest share of respondents who report "likely" or "very likely" in response to the following question: "Thinking about the effects of artificial intelligence (AI) in the labour market, how likely do you think the following are in [country] over the next 5 to 10 years? a. AI technology will lead to a rise in income inequality; b. AI technology will allow most people to have more free time; c. AI technology will allow most people to have less boring, repetitive, stressful or mentally demanding jobs; d. AI technology will create more jobs; e. AI technology will lead to higher levels of unemployment; f. AI technology will lead to more surveillance at work; and g. AI technology will require many people to re-train for different jobs". Respondents could choose between: "Very unlikely", "Unlikely", "Likely", "Very likely", "Can't choose." RTM data include respondents aged 18-64. **Source:** OECD Risks that Matter Survey 2024.

Perceptions of inequality

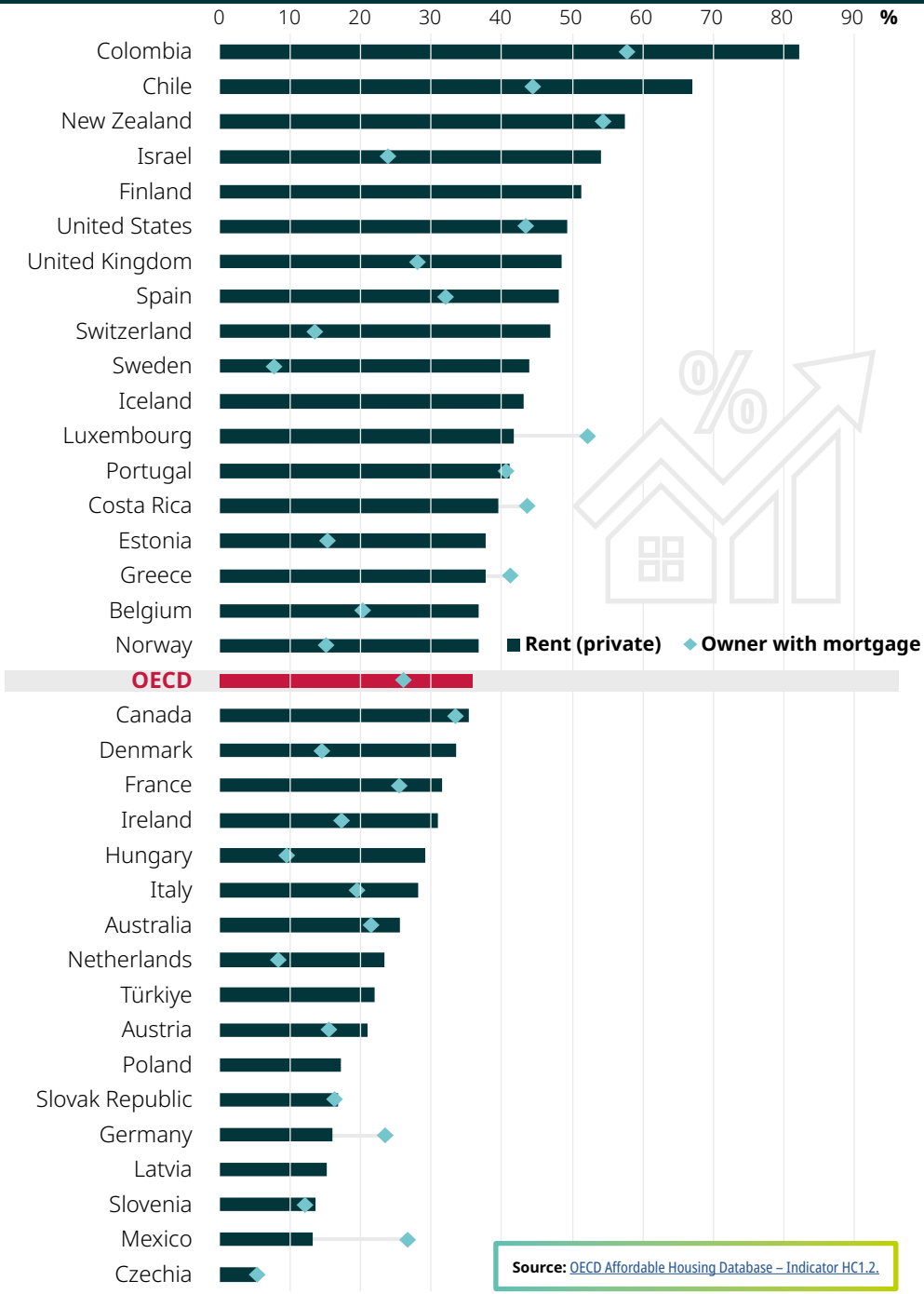
Percentage of respondents thinking that inequality is far too high or too high in their country, by domain of inequality, 2022



Note: Respondents were asked the question: "Thinking about different types of inequality, please indicate whether you think that each of the following is too high or too low in your country". The different types of inequality were randomly ordered across respondents. Data from the Opportunities module include respondents aged 18-64.
Source: Opportunities module of the OECD Risks that Matter Survey 2022, http://oe.cd/rtm.

Housing cost overburden

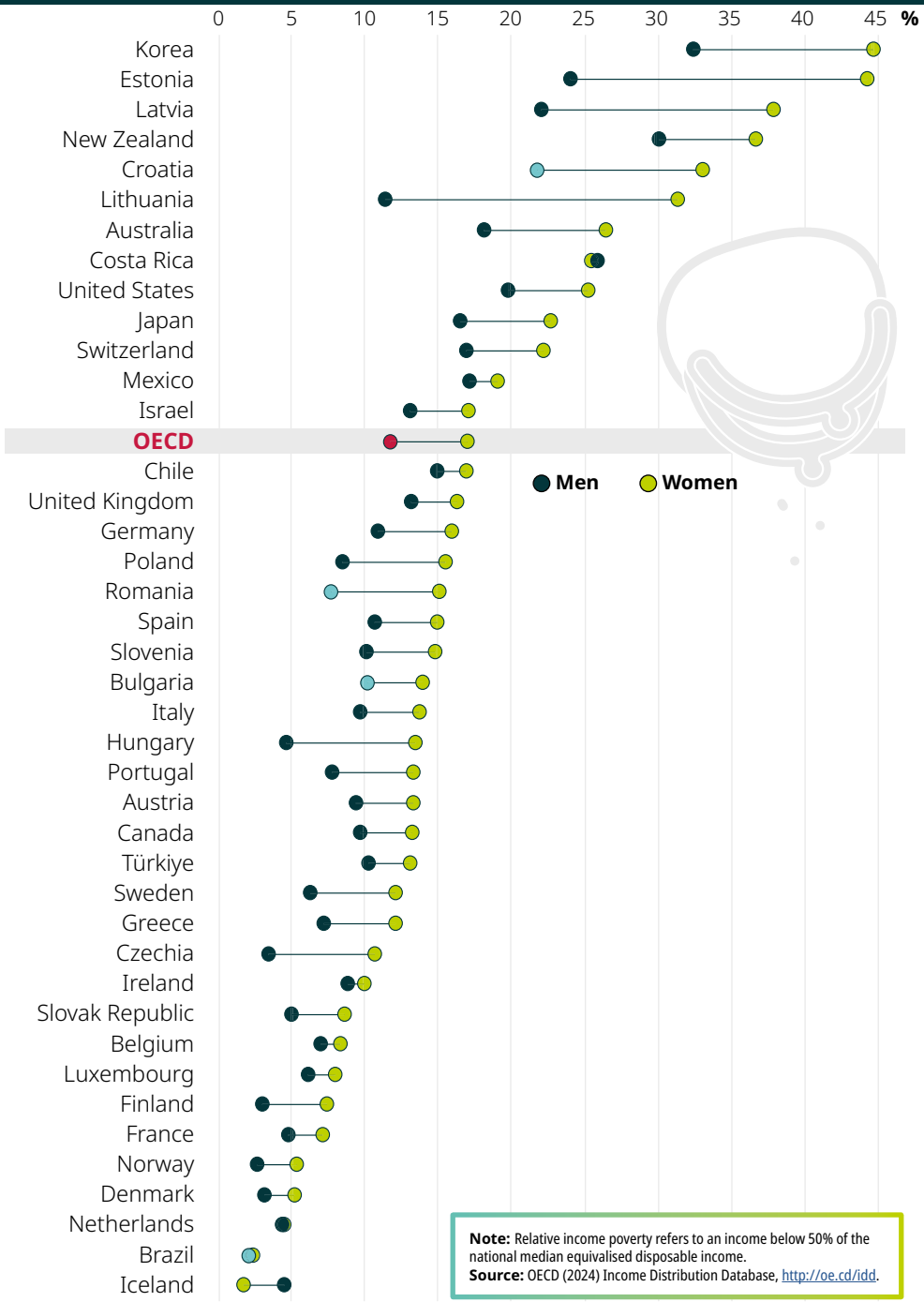
Share of population in the bottom quintile of the income distribution spending more than 40% of disposable income on mortgage and rent, by tenure, in percent, 2022 or latest year



Source: OECD Affordable Housing Database – Indicator HC1.2.

Old-age poverty by gender

Relative income poverty among over 65 year-olds, by gender, 2022 or latest year



Note: Relative income poverty refers to an income below 50% of the national median equivalised disposable income.
Source: OECD (2024) Income Distribution Database, http://oe.cd/idd.